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APPEAL PROCEDURES AMENDED

PORTLAND, February 15--In March 1990 an interim rule amending the administrative appeal procedures at 36 CFR Part 217 was published. Publication of the notice finalizing the interim rule appeared in the Federal Register on February 6. The final rule became effective upon publication.

There were two major changes between the interim and final rule. The final rule removes the simultaneous filing requirement for Notices of Appeal, along with the requirement for dismissal of an appeal that was not filed with both the Reviewing and Deciding Officers. The final rule now requires that 2 copies of a Notice of Appeal be filed with the Reviewing Officer. The second major change is that Deciding Officers now have 60 days to forward the relevant decision documentation for appeals of land and resource management plan approvals, significant amendments or revisions, and for appeals of other programmatic decisions.

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